

Abstract of the Disclosure

METHOD FOR NAVIGATING IN THE INTERIOR OF THE BODY USING
THREE-DIMENSIONALLY VISUALIZED STRUCTURES

A method is described for navigating in the interior of the body using three-dimensionally visualized structures. In a first step of the method, at least two two-dimensional images of the same anatomical object are provided from different perspectives, and also items of information that make it possible to draw conclusions about the respective spatial position of an imaging system relative to the anatomical object. The projections of a geometrical structure to be visualized are then created in every two-dimensional image, wherein a geometrical structure to be visualized is created in each two-dimensional image, wherein the geometrical structure to be visualized is different from the anatomical object. A cone surface is then generated in space for each image wherein the spatial positions of the cone vertex and cone directrix are determined from the respective spatial position of the imaging system and the shape of the cone directrix is determined from the shape of the projection of the geometrical structure to be visualized on the image. Finally, a spatial intersection of the individual cone surfaces is formed to determine the geometrical structure and the geometrical structure determined and/or an intersection of a plurality of geometrical structures determined are/is represented and the representation is used for navigation.

In the Specification:

- At page 1, line 4, insert the heading "Background of the Invention";
- At page 2, line 23, insert the heading "Summary of the Invention";
- At page 11, line 24; insert the heading "Brief Description of the Drawings";
- At page 12, line 28 insert the heading "Description of the Preferred Embodiment".
- At page 26, line 1, please delete "PATENT CLAIMS" and insert therefore "We Claim:"

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1-13 as follows: